

Musket

Vol. XII, No. 4

Lexington High School, Lexington, Mass.

February 17, 1989



An award-winning photograph from last month's 39th Boston Globe Scholastic Art Awards competition. Lexington High School art students earned a total of 30 awards in the regional contest, including 19 Gold Keys and 11 Honorable Mentions. See related story on page 2.

Senate Evaluates Itself

Future of X-block, Skateboarding Recent Issues

By Carol Sohn

As the result of a letter Superintendent of Schools Philip E. Geiger recently wrote to Moderator Janet Doherty, the Student/Faculty Senate has submerged itself in a self-evaluation. The letter suggested that the Wednesday X-block, now set aside exclusively by the LHS Constitution for Senate meetings, be reconsidered for use in "interest activities" to better utilize the services and resources of the school.

Geiger added that perhaps the Senate could meet at some other time, since few students and faculty who are not members attend the meetings. His suggestion originated from his observation that during X-block, many students "travel to downtown Lexington, which is not a desirable situation."

The Senate met on January 18 to discuss the revision of its meeting time. Principal Michael G. Waring began the discussion by outlining his plan for a new schedule involving a six-day rotation throughout the school year. Each block would meet five times every six days.

Under this plan, X-block would be eliminated altogether and the first two periods on Monday would be devoted to "service/academic development time," referring to community service, extra academic help, and faculty group meeting time.

Math teacher Benjamin Levy pointed out that the complication with both Geiger's and Waring's proposals is that under the LHS Constitution, a change in the schedule requires the approval of two-thirds of the Senate body as well as the majority of the student and the faculty populations.

Many senators voiced opposition to the abolishment of X-block. Senior Clare O'Leary, a former senator and a framer of the

LHS Constitution, said, "There is no Senate without X-block." Before X-block existed, she continued, "school government was a total joke."

Senators expressed concern that if the meetings were held after school hours or in the evenings many qualified students may be discouraged from running for Senate due to other extracurricular commitments.

The Senate then went on to discuss Geiger's main reason for his

proposal: that the vast majority of students are simply not interested in attending Senate meetings, no matter when they are scheduled.

Junior George Cooley faulted the lack of attention given to non-senators who attend the meetings, citing the example of the skateboarders who came to the January 11 meeting when the Senate passed a bill forbidding skateboarding on campus during school hours. They were, according to

Continued on page 6

Zimmerman To Depart

By Jeremy Giller

Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Isa Zimmerman has accepted a superintendency in Easton, Massachusetts, and will be leaving her post in Lexington "sometime this spring."

Zimmerman said that her only reason for leaving is that she "wants a superintendency," and that her chances are "slim to impossible" of becoming superintendent in Lexington, with Philip E. Geiger's arrival this school year as new superintendent. Asked why she did not apply for the job of superintendent in Lexington last year, Zimmerman said, "I thought that the School Committee really wanted to hire someone from outside" the Lexington school system.

"The exact date [of my departure] has yet to be settled," said Zimmerman. She did note, however that her departure will be in the spring, most likely before the end of the school year. Despite her early departure, Zimmerman said, "I will be available to complete some of the work in Lexington [through the 1988-89 school year] as part of my job."

Zimmerman said, "I like

Lexington very much [and] the community has been terrific to work in." She said she enjoyed "working with the staff — all of the teachers and administrators," and "the hardest thing to do" will be to leave the people.

The highlights of her seven years in Lexington include "planning...and then implementing" the

S.C. Looks to Settle Waring Case by 28th

By Sharon Glick

At a two and a half hour executive session on January 17, the School Committee decided unanimously that unless a settlement is reached by February 28, it will pursue an appeal of High School Principal Michael G. Waring's court-ordered reinstatement.

School Committee Chairman Paul Newman said that the decision was made because "both parties went into that case thinking they were right. The fact that Judge [Hiller] Zobel came to the decision he did does not mean one party will just roll over."

"We have to take into consideration Judge Zobel's decision," he added, "but his opinion did not make us feel that we didn't have a case."

Although School Committee members Albert Zabin and Polly Woodworth had previously voiced opposition to the appeal, Waring said he was "not surprised" at the 5-0 vote.

In contrast, Newman said, "Yes, I was surprised [that the vote was unanimous.] I went into the meeting not really expecting it."

At a meeting on December 20, Zabin stated that the School Committee's "case is so weak, there is no reasonable chance, in my view, that we [the School Committee] can prevail."

When asked to explain his present position, Zabin said, "If we [he and Woodworth] had held our ground it would have been a 3-2

vote...If you don't have the vote to get the committee to decide you way, you look for a reasonable compromise."

"You need to be practical," he added, "...not just stand on principle just for the sake of standing on principle."

Waring said, "They [School Committee members] are after the settlement. I want to work here."

"I would be pleased if there were a resolution that caused the court action to stop, my back salary to finally be paid, other expenses to be accounted for, and allowed me to continue working in this particular position," he said. However, Waring also said he "fully expects" that the situation

"Both parties went into that case thinking they were right. [Judge Zobel's decision] does not mean one party will just roll over."

—School Committee
Chairman
Paul Newman

will be resolved only in court.

"I measure any proposal against its possible impact on many more people than just me," he said. Waring refused to elaborate on this statement.

Newman said, "What we hope to negotiate is a deal that Waring thinks is good and we think is good."

Neither side would disclose any details of the settlement negotiations, which are currently taking place between their respective lawyers. Waring said it would be "completely against procedure" to discuss any proposals.

Written Decision Released

On February 3, Judge Zobel's written decision was released. The decision contained his reasoning for ruling in favor of Waring and ordering Waring's back pay to be restored. If the School Committee pursues an appeal, Waring will not receive his back pay until the appeal is ruled on.

By a unanimous School Committee vote, Waring was

Continued on page 7



Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Isa Zimmerman.

Musket File Photo

Inside:

More News 2,6
Features 3,7
Editorials 4,5
Sports 8,9,10



"I was surprised and pleased," said senior Melora Kuhn of winning three Gold Key awards and two Honorable Mentions in the *Globe* contest. Kuhn's portfolio additionally won two blue ribbons to advance to the National Finals.

Photo by Jon Yoken

Students Lead State in *Globe* Art Awards

By Sharon Glick

Lexington High School art students led the state in capturing 32 awards at the 39th *Boston Globe* Scholastic Art Awards competition last month.

Out of 36 entries by 26 LHS students, 30 pieces of artwork by 18 students earned a total of 19 Gold Key awards and 11 Honorable Mentions. Artwork by LHS students made up 3.8 percent of the winning pieces — the highest percentage in the state. A total of 5,000 works were entered in the contest.

"[LHS] staff is the key," said Dr. Paul Ciano, Coordinator of Art Education for the Lexington Public Schools. "All I hear from people is that we have talented kids," he said, "I say we have a talented staff."

"We do have talented kids, but we don't have a corner on talented kids," he added.

Administered by the Artists Foundation in Boston and sponsored by the *Globe*, the contest is open to students in grades seven through 12 from all Massachusetts

"All I hear from people is we have talented kids. I say we have a talented staff."

—Art Coordinator
Paul Ciano

schools. During January, all winners exhibited their work at sites around the state, such as Boston's Cyclorama Building. Gold key winners competed for 200 blue-ribbon prizes in the state finals at the State Transportation Building.

Continued on page 8

Security Company Changed

By Anjan Mukherjee

On January 17, the Buckland Security Company, which had previously handled Lexington High School security responsibilities, was replaced by the Alliance Security Company.

"Security companies bid publicly for the job at the High

School, and the one bidding the least gets the job," said Acting Assistant Principal for Building and Facilities Anthony Capezza. "Buckland Security provided a good service. They bid, but they lost to Alliance, and that's the reason for the change."

Capezza said that Alliance was chosen not only for their lower

NEASC Report Assesses High School

By Sara Dempster

The recently released New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) report on Lexington High School contained "no surprises, but a couple of items that were appropriate needles," according to Principal Michael G. Waring.

The visiting committee's 57-page report reviewed every major aspect of the High School. The report included a list of commendations and a list of recommendations for each aspect.

The report is based on both the observations made by the visiting committee during their three and a half day stay at the High School and the self-evaluation that the high school faculty and administrators prepared throughout the year prior to the NEASC visit in October, 1988.

"What they were actually doing was comparing what we wrote about ourselves to what they could see in three and a half days. [The report] reflects very much the self-evaluation that we did. The two [the report and self-evaluation] were consistent," said Waring.

He continued, "I think that the academic program was and continues to be excellent here at Lexington High School, and that's what the people who came here and visited felt as well."

However, the report commented, "Lexington High School has always had an excellent reputation for providing a sound educational program to its students. It was difficult for the visiting committee to confirm this fact as a result of the climate in the building during our visit."

Waring said of this quotation, "I believe that was the consequence of some members of the visiting committee coming in [and] perceiving that...the strike last year and other things that distracted people...prevented some groups from doing a complete and thorough job on their self-assessment."

"A combination of recent decisions made by the new superintendent [Philip E. Geiger], the reinstatement by the court of the dismissed principal, and the aftermath of a teacher strike have diffused teacher energy," observed the introduction of the NEASC report.

In response to the preceding

comment, Margaret Schwartz, President of the Lexington Education Association [LEA], said, "Unfortunately, I do agree. I think that the visiting committee read the atmosphere correctly."

Schwartz added, "That kind of thing does take energy. The tension is non-productive."

Also, the report noted, "Because Lexington High School has always prided itself on the democratic process, the teachers and students feel disappointed with the new administrative fiat. Furthermore, the turmoil within the high school has even led to feelings of anger

among the staff. Both the students and teachers feel that they deserve the opportunity to provide input in the decision making process."

"Oh absolutely," Schwartz said of the above, "I don't know that the Superintendent has done much to win the love of the staff...Teachers feel insecure about the trend within the school system towards an emphasis on management and accountability."

"It is accountability at the expense of teachers," added Schwartz, "and I think account-

Continued on page 6



Lunchwomen are currently working for a service in financial jeopardy. Superintendent Philip E. Geiger hopes to make the service self-sufficient.

Photo by Jon Yoken

Lunch Services Losing Dough

Geiger, Grimmer at Odds over Alternatives

By Michael Sonnenschein

According to LHS Food Service Director Imogene Grimmer, Superintendent of Schools Philip E. Geiger has "not included the food service staff" in the process of investigating alternatives for the Lexington school lunch program. Geiger is considering contracting with a commercial food service management company, an option that, according to Grimmer, is "not the solution."

"[Geiger] hasn't really discussed any options we have [with the food service staff]. He seems to have made this decision pretty much himself," she said.

The current lunch system, which loses \$90,000 a year, is hampered by a physically inefficient cafeteria system, which drives up labor costs, and outdated equipment, which consistently requires considerable and costly repair, said Grimmer.

\$48,000 has been cut from the equipment repair budget, a decision which Grimmer said she was not informed of until she "read about it in the paper." Due to the open campus program and other factors, Grimmer stated, only 25 percent of LHS students actually buy lunch at the school, compared with 65 percent at other schools.

According to Geiger, the school system must "recognize that students are customers" and attempt to make the lunch program "more attractive" to them. "We haven't arrived at any sort of decision regarding [the lunch program]," he said. "We're just trying to investigate our options."

Grimmer stated that Geiger was to appoint an administrative committee, including her. The committee was to have filed a report on

January 10th regarding the lunch program. According to Grimmer, "There hasn't been any committee."

Contracting the lunch system to a commercial management company, said Grimmer, would be a mistake. In a letter which appeared in the January 19, 1989 issue of the *Lexington Minute-man*, Grimmer wrote that if the school system took such an action, they would be faced with "more limited menus [that] do not sell well" and would limit the nutritional variety available to the students, to some

"[The school system must] recognize that students are consumers."

—Superintendent
Philip E. Geiger

of whom, the school lunch "is the only complete meal they receive during the day."

Grimmer wrote that she advocates raising student lunch prices, "Food prices and employee salaries have increased and common sense tells us that prices should go up accordingly." Grimmer said the administration "refuses to consider this option."

If that fails, Grimmer said she believes that the town should expect to give some financial support to the lunch system.

"Most towns in Massachusetts give appropriations to the school lunch program because they believe it contributes to the students' health and well-being."



An Alliance patrol car surveys the high school campus. The Alliance Security Company has replaced Buckland Security and its well-known guard, Dennis Sellars.

Photo by Jon Yoken



Junior Mark Sroka practices his art form — now forbidden at the High School. The Student/Faculty Senate passed a bill submitted by Principal Michael G. Waring banning skateboarding during school hours.

Photo by Aaron Washington

Skateboarders Facing Extinction

By Yeh-Jiun Tung

The slaps and slams of wood and steel against concrete are no longer heard around LHS. Gone, too, are exclamations such as "gnarly" and "radical" and questions such as "How high did ya pull that judo air yesterday?"

Skateboarders collecting near the steps by the Science Building to test their practiced skills used to be a familiar sight. With the LHS Senate's passing of the Skateboarding Bill, skateboarding has been banned on campus during the school day.

The passing of the bill has served to heighten many skaters' perception that they are alienated from other LHS students. They talk disgustedly of the "NO FREAKS" sign over the skateboarders' "AIRWALK" sign. Sophomore Michael Bowes declared, "People don't understand or appreciate [skateboarding]." Junior Sebastian Quezada thinks that there are too many "false conceptions" about skating. Quezada calls the perceived intolerance of skaters a "violation of rights" and says that skateboarders are singled out by everybody, including teachers. "We're the scapegoats," he stated bluntly.

If skaters are "the scapegoats," why do they skate at all? Bowes said he skates because "it's an expression of art." Skateboarding is a culture with its own clothes, language, and music: some of the skaters wear colorful T-shirts or pants emblazoned with skateboard companies' logos. One T-shirt proclaims, "Don't skate if you don't relate." Skateboarders even have special rock groups that they listen to, such as Suicidal Tendencies or Bad Brains.

Skateboarders are serious about their sport; many of them know students from other towns who skate at the same place in Boston, an area the skaters call "Metals" near Government Center and Faneuil Hall. Sponsored by local shops, skateboarding contests attract many of the skaters at LHS. At a recent street skateboarding competition at the Pro Cycle bicycle shop in Melrose, Mike Bowes received a skateboard deck, worth about \$45, for placing highly in the novice division.

Thrasher, one of several skateboarding magazines, described the reason for skating in its January 1989 issue: "Skateboarding is many things to many individuals. Pure and simple, it's a healthy, radical art form. Skateboarding is the positive release of undirected explosive youthful energy. Skateboarding utilizes the ever-expanding environment of steel and concrete as can-

"If there's been no danger so far, I don't think [the school] should restrict our skating."

—sophomore
Eric Fahey

vas. For pure spontaneous action, skateboarding is unequalled. It makes the skater become one with his board, while the board in turn translates the language of cement..."

The question most frequently asked by skateboarders about the new Senate bill was "What's the reason for it?" Freshman Adam Kramer felt that it was unfair for the school to build and renovate the field house for the "jocks" and to refuse to recognize skateboarding as a sport. Kramer said, "All we want are the steps. Dr. Waring's decision [to ban skateboarding] sucks."

Sophomore Matt Diamond echoed Kramer: "I don't understand how kids can play baseball on campus and we can't skate. [Baseball is] just as dangerous."

The majority of the skaters agree with the stickers on many of their boards that read, "Skateboarding is not a crime." Sophomore Eric Fahey stated, "If there's been no danger so far, I don't think [the school] should restrict our skating."

A different perspective was offered by

Continued on page 8

Violinist Competes in Poland

By Abbie Webber

Imagine going to Poland. Exciting in itself. Now imagine being selected from 35 contestants to be the only representative from the United States to take part in an international competition where skills, styles and techniques from around the world are being displayed. Lexington High School sophomore Helen Chang does not need to imagine; it happened to her.

Last April, Chang was informed by her teacher at the Longy school of music in Cambridge that she was to attend the Wieniski International Competition for Violinists in Lublin, Poland. The travel and accommodations for the two-week venture were partially paid and it was an opportunity not to be missed.

Approximately 35 violinists in the Junior Division (ages ranged from very young to sixteen years old) auditioned for the chance. Chang was unique in that she was not required to try out. Her teacher, being one of the judges, simply chose her for this honor without a formal audition.

Fifteen-year-old Chang has been studying violin since her mother signed her up for lessons in Hastings Elementary School when she was five and a half. When asked who or what kept her interested in playing, she replied that she had grown up with her parents listening to classical music, but, other than that, it is her own desire to play that keeps her practicing the art. A member of a family of four (her younger sister is a freshman at LHS), Chang is the only one who plays the instrument.

Three weeks into the school year, Helen and her teacher began their journey. This was her first international competition. She did not know who she was facing, had no friends or family to talk to, and did not know the language spoken. With the exception of her teacher, she was alone.

Despite the language barrier, Chang found it relatively easy to communicate with the other participants. Her teacher was Polish and spoke the language, and she was able to make friends rapidly who helped her grow accustomed to the foreign tongue.

The competition itself was divided into three stages distributed over the two weeks. Junior Division competitors were present were students from China, the U.S.S.R., Yugoslavia, the Netherlands, Japan, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Spain, and the United States. The numbers from each country varied from five or six to one in the case of the U.S. and Helen.

The first stage of the competition was a required piece for every participant. For this, Chang won the Best Caprice award.

From there she moved on the remaining stages, winning no more awards, but gaining something that would stay with her forever. "It was such an experience to hear and see so many people play from all over the world. I made a lot of friends. [In the end] it was not only a competition, but a chance to really meet people."

Chang was so enthralled by the experience of meeting new people that she extended her stay for a week in order to spend more time with her new friends.

This year, Chang has taken a year off from the Longy School, but has in no way diminished her devotion to the violin. She

has joined GBSO (Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra), which has a chamber orchestra in addition to two symphony orchestras. She is not part of the High School's orchestra, but played in the special chamber group which accompanied the choral groups in the seasonal concert. (Look for Helen in the pit orchestra for this year's musical "Once Upon A Mattress," scheduled for March.)

When asked if she would repeat her trip, Chang responded that she planned to do so in three years when the competition will be held again. Summing up her experience, Helen said, "It was exciting!"



Violin virtuoso Helen Chang, a sophomore, gives a demonstration of her skills. Earlier in the school year, Chang spent three weeks at an international competition in Poland.

Photo by Jon Yoken

Fencing as a Way of Life

By Anne Duncan

Peter Kleinmann was 13 when he saw the classic film *The Adventures of Robin Hood*. The seventh grade student watched Errol Flynn as the Sherwood green-suited hero who battled the villainous Sheriff of Nottingham up and down a staircase in a dazzling exhibition of swordsmanship. There and then Kleinmann decided that he would learn to fence.

Through a friend at Concord-Carlisle High School, he discovered the Watertown Academy of Fencing, a store selling fencing supplies. The owner was George Platt, who became Kleinmann's first coach. After Platt moved in the summer of 1987, Kleinmann found Gamil Kaloubay as his second and current coach.

The work is hard. Kleinmann works out four or five nights every week when he is preparing for a tournament; he estimates that fencing burns 300 calories per hour. However, he asserts that the "mental part [of fencing] is a lot harder. You can learn the physical part." The most difficult aspect of fencing for Kleinmann is "keeping it all together" — being able to concentrate on where he is, what he can do in the next few seconds, and what his opponent is likely to do. One danger in all of this mental footwork, says Kleinmann, is that it is easy to become absorbed in planning his moves too far ahead, thereby losing track of the current situation and making himself

Continued on page 7

Future of LHS Senate in Danger

The High School's Student/Faculty Senate provides students with a unique opportunity: Students, at least for the moment, have the chance to work within a participatory democracy. There are hints, though, that this opportunity may be in jeopardy.

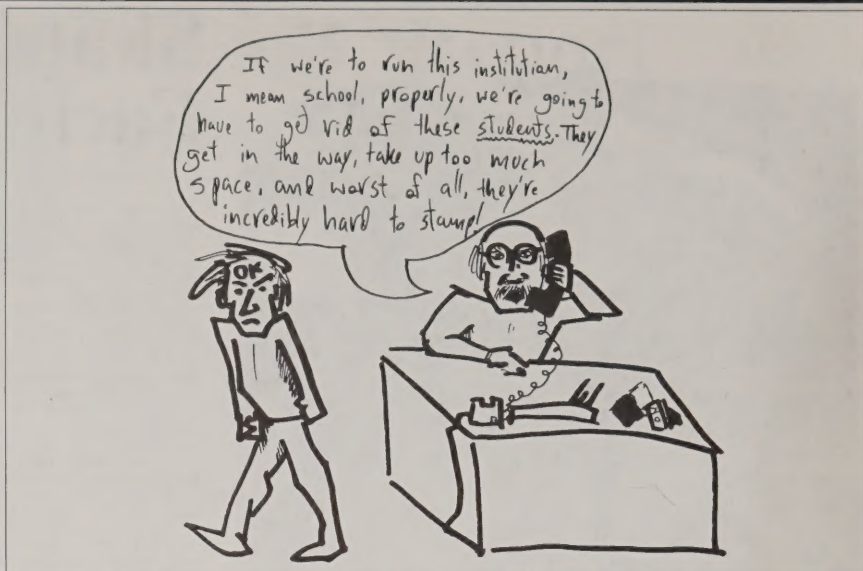
In a letter addressed to Senate Moderator Janet Doherty, Superintendent Geiger wrote of his dissatisfaction with the Senate's current meeting time. Despite his making several factual errors in the letter, Geiger's point was clear: X-block has not been all it was intended to be. The fact that Geiger, at the time of the letter's writing, had not yet attended a Senate meeting, makes it particularly difficult to accept his opinion.

The Superintendent is suggesting that the Senate hold its meetings in the middle of a school day and that student non-senators be required to participate in "interest activities" run by faculty non-senators. This plan put into effect would mean the end of the Senate as it is now known. In the words of one framer of the LHS Constitution, Clare O'Leary, "If you get rid of X-block, you might as well say good-bye to the Senate."

It is essential that more of the school community become involved with the Student/Faculty Senate.

It is not necessary that X-block be at the end of the school day, but its existence as a conflict-free block is crucial if the Senate is to continue in its present form. The danger of an activity block is that the Senate would be in competition with other activities, and would therefore lose much of its diversity and many of its stronger members. In creating an X-block, the framers hoped that non-senators interested in particular bills would make their opinions heard. Although this type of occurrence has thus far been rare, the Senate is but a year and a half old. It is entirely too early to pronounce X-block a failure.

Admittedly, the Senate has far from attained all of its objectives. Starting with the body's indecision on the



Open Campus Bill last year, the initial enthusiasm surrounding the Senate began to wear thin. The High School, specifically its senators, must work to regenerate this original emotion. For instance, little information currently passes between senators and their constituents. Perhaps student senators could make these connections during homeroom periods while faculty senators could set aside blocks of time during lunch or after school to meet with constituents. It is essential that more of the school community become involved with the Senate if it is to survive Geiger's apparent disapproval and thrive in the future.

When Geiger's desire for an activity block is placed in the context of his remarks that "adults cannot abdicate their responsibility" and that "15- and 16-year-olds cannot run a high school," one may be dubious about his motives in suggesting a move away from an exclusive X-block.

Fifteen-, 16-, 17-, and 18-year-olds, along with 30-, 40-, and 50-year-olds, are fully capable of participating in the formation of high school policies. It is this blend of youth and fresh ideas with age and experience that constitutes the basis of the Senate's worth. Those being affected, students and teachers, are most aware of the needs of the High School.

No one expected the LHS Senate to be the only policymaking body at the High School. Nor was it envisioned that the Senate would be responsible for implementing policies. The hope of the framers was that, working with the principal, the Senate could improve Lexington High School and expand the students' knowledge of involvement in democracy. Although more slowly than anticipated, both these goals have been accomplished. Indeed, the recent report of the NEASC accrediting committee praised the Senate for persevering through the more tedious stages of democracy.

There is infinite room for improving these accomplishments; yet, accomplishments they remain.

"Democracy," wrote Alexis de Tocqueville, "opens the future."

"Adults," says Geiger, "cannot abdicate their responsibility."

To prevent the corrosion of the LHS Constitution, senators, rather than abdicating their own responsibilities, must work to open doors to an improved future. Keeping X-block conflict-free will facilitate this outcome.

—Charles N. Giller

Letters to the Editor

Importance of Reciting the Pledge

To the Editor:

I must say that the recent articles and editorials printed in *Musket* dealing with the Pledge of Allegiance bother me. I agree that if a person does not want to utter the Pledge, they should not be forced to. In addition, if someone should have a problem with the phrase "under G-d" for whatever reason, they should exclude it from the Pledge.

However, I do not see what all the unrest is about. What is wrong with trying to teach the youths of America to believe in something? What is wrong with teaching faith to youths, many of whom have faith only in food and television? To assume that the Pledge asks for belief in G-d is incorrect. In actuality, the Pledge asks one to stand for this country, which exists as one, not to divide into halves and demean the current president if one's candidate lost the election, which, as I recall, is based upon the desires of the majority.

So remember, the next time you hear the Pledge of Allegiance and you debate whether or not to stand and recite it, think not that the Pledge asks you to put faith in G-d or in one man, but rather that it asks you to put faith in this great country, which is founded on Liberty and Justice for all.

—Jared Entin

Sixties versus Eighties at LHS

To the Editor:

I was intrigued by your article, "The Turbulent Seventies at LHS." The responses you got from the teachers you interviewed disappointed me somewhat. I think perhaps they didn't give very much thought to what I feel, and you obviously feel, are very interesting questions: Is LHS different now than it was 20 years ago? how is it different? and why is it different?

My husband and I are parents of an LHS sophomore. We're in our early 40s. I'm from the Midwest, but my husband graduated from LHS in 1963. We were college students and graduate students during most of the Vietnam War. My husband is the oldest of a family of six children, all of whom attended LHS in the '60s and '70s. His youngest brother graduated in 1978.

First, let me say that I'm not at all sure that kids today are much different in basic attitudes and feelings than they were 20 years ago. My own experience with my children and their friends doesn't show me any great differences. I would have to have more than just anecdotal evidence to convince me. Ms. Perakis calls it "depression." In the '60s we called it "identity crisis," but there were a lot of sad kids around then too.

Although many of us teenagers dedicated ourselves to social causes such as the ecology movement, the anti-war movement, civil rights, women's rights, the black power struggle, even complete political and social revolution, we were not a joyful generation of imaginative dreamers — except maybe those of us who were mosted all the time.

We were, by and large, angry and frustrated, struggling to change the whole course of Western Civilization without success. I don't want you to think that you were born too late and missed out on a wonderful era of good feelings, "good vibrations," when everyone shared love, flowers, sunshine and freedom. There were plenty of suicides in the '60s and '70s too, many of them the slow kind, the killing of brain power and ambition with drugs and alcohol. Ms. Engelberg refers accurately to the up-side and the down-side.

Assuming, however, that there are differences between LHS students of 1989 and those of 1969, that students today are — as the trend-mongers tell us — more achievement-oriented, more academically motivated, less spontaneous, more pressured by parents to succeed in school and college, let me offer a few ideas as to why these differences may exist.

The world is a very different place today than it was 20 years ago. America's economy is no longer the limitless expansion it seemed to be during the Vietnam era. We see a narrowing in the range of opportunity for you, our children. We don't know what the future holds for you or how exactly we should prepare you for it, and we are worried. That's why we encourage you so stridently to do well in school, to be self-disciplined, to get good grades, to work hard, to make the most of your opportunities, not to "blow it" now at the beginning of your lives. We're not sure there will be a second chance for you.

Life after high school was easier for us of the last generation. College costs were much, much lower then. It was possible to work one's way through school, scholarship grants were much more available, there were National Defense Loans for anyone at 3% interest. We could afford idealism in those days. We could give years of our lives to VISTA or the Peace Corps or low-paying, socially beneficial jobs because we weren't saddled with crushing college debts to repay after graduation. We could drop out of school and make livings of a sort in the ample margins of the booming economy. We could survive making jewelry and tie-dyed shirts to sell on the streets of Cambridge and San Francisco.

We might also look at the changed demographics of Lexington. Lexington of the '60s was a much more diverse community of socio-economic types than it is today. Lexington was more a town, less a suburb. There were more farmers, tradespeople, and merchants living here, and far fewer LHS graduates expected to go to college. Today the educational achievement and income level of parents in Lexington is very high. Most students at LHS have very bright, well-educated, high-achieving parents who expect them to go to college and to work hard to get there. These are the factors contributing to the intense academic pressure at LHS today.

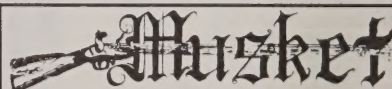
One final thought — the teachers you interviewed were presumably all teachers who were here at LHS 15 or 20 years ago. Remember that these teachers are now all 20 years older themselves. Perhaps they are looking at the past through rose-colored glasses. Perhaps they themselves have lost some of the youthful idealism and enthusiasm they had when they were fresh out of school and trying to change the course of Western Civilization.

Maybe their students do not identify with them and their ideas quite so readily anymore, and maybe they do not have quite as much energy to encourage their students' dreams and idealism. A school is a very different place when virtually all of the teachers are over 40, and I am not surprised that students react differently to it. And remember that the pressure we parents put on students also affects teachers as well, what they teach, and how they teach it.

We are, all of us — parents, teachers, and students — caught up in the competitive, soul-numbing struggle of our times, and we must each find a way to remain human, "never to gradually allow the traffic to smother/ with noise and fog the flowering of the spirit."

Thank you for a very thought-provoking article.

—Jean Williams



Editor-in-Chief.....	Charles N. Giller
News Editors.....	Sara Dempster Sharon Glick
Editorials Editor.....	Tony Castleman
Features Editors.....	Anne Duncan Karen Mark
Sports Editors.....	Sarah Estow Jason Kissell
Photography Editors.....	Jon Yoken Mako Yoshino
Business Editor.....	Henry Goldblatt
Art Editor.....	Aaron Diskin
Layout Editor.....	Jonathan Brecher
Assistant Layout Editor.....	John Tedrow
Faculty Advisor.....	Sam Kafritsen
Printer.....	Belmont Printing Company
Reporters.....	Jeremy Giller, Jen Haskell, Annika Hippie Kristen Lieb, Amy Marx, Anjan Mukherjee Carol Sohn, Michael Sonnenschein, Yeh-Jiun Tung Abbie Webber, Angela Yin
Photographers.....	Dwight Holmes, Aaron Washington

Copyright © 1988 Lexington High School Musket. All rights reserved.

The opinions expressed on these editorial pages are the views of either the *Musket* editorial board or of individual staff members. They are not necessarily a reflection of school policy, nor are they intended to mirror the ideas of every student. Therefore, the *Musket* realizes its responsibility to print other opinions. Leave short, tasteful letters to the editor in the *Musket* mailbox in the LHS Student Activities Center. Only signed letters will ordinarily be printed.

S.C. Candidates Comment on LHS

Musket requested that each School Committee candidate submit a statement expressing their views on pertinent high school issues. Candidates were suggested but not required to comment on five particular issues: the NEASC report, the new drug policy, teacher morale, the Waring situation, and the performance of the new superintendent.



My candidacy results from many years of commitment to school and town affairs. I am one of the few fathers who served on PTA. I have judged at high school science fairs, and I chaired the committee which helped introduce computers into education. I have been a booster of Lexington sports and performing arts. I am very supportive of an effective guidance program and have been active in RePlace. My 14 years of service in Town Meeting provide me with useful background in resolving budget differences between the schools and other town bodies.

I believe that because of my long term involvement, I bring special qualifications to the job of restoring mutual confidence and good working relations among the School Committee, the administration, and the teachers. Teachers who know me have confidence that I care about education and am a person who makes decisions with thoughtful consideration.

Drug Policy

I support the enforcement of the drug and alcohol abuse policy with respect to students who are under the influence or in possession either in the school or on school grounds. However, we need an atmosphere in which students feel free to discuss and seek help for problems that occur outside of school. Students must be assured that their particular circumstances will be sensitively and professionally addressed.

NEASC Report/Teacher Morale

The NEASC report has identified troublesome problems that have to be solved. I will support the staff in their efforts to improve cohesion in the High School and to increase attention to less motivated students.

Waring Dismissal

Dr. Waring's situation has been very unsettling to the school and exceedingly difficult for everybody. Apparently, there is an effort underway to seek a resolution.

New Superintendent

Ideas and changes being introduced by Dr. Geiger have come with a rapidity to which we are unaccustomed. The reality of budget constraints forces many changes and imposes an obligation of increased accountability on the schools.

Parents, students, teachers and indeed the entire community have a stake in the schools' functioning harmoniously. We must all work together towards this common goal.

—Julian Bussgang



The High School shares many issues with Lexington's other schools, but the high school issues I would like to address here are the Life Skills Program, confidentiality, and the school's climate.

Life Skills

I believe Lexington needs the Life Skills program.

My work with young people, as a high school teacher and at the Crittenton Hastings House in Boston, has made me very aware of the difficult decisions and stress students face.

The Superintendent has made a commitment to raise money for this program through contributions. Each member of the School Committee should make a personal commitment to work with him.

Confidentiality

The new drug policy has generated controversy about when and how parents and other professionals should be told about a student's problems. The High School needs a clearly stated policy on confidentiality.

The School Committee's job is to see that a policy is written and that it is clear and fair to students and parents. Students must feel safe talking to staff about problems, and parents must know they won't be excluded from efforts to help their children.

School Climate

The High School climate has been identified as a major concern by the community and the outside accreditation agency. What can we do to improve the climate?

•The School Committee must do all it can to bring the legal proceedings involving the principal to resolution quickly and finally.

•The Committee should move without delay to improve the working relationship between the Superintendent and the faculty. The Committee should direct the Superintendent to find a solution and expect the teachers to cooperate in the process.

•The School Committee should improve communication between the school and community. Perhaps a program inviting residents to share their talents and expertise would bring people into the school. As an education reporter, I have seen other communities set up similar, inexpensive programs with great success.

Most important, however, is that we move on this problem. It would be very sad indeed to see an excellent school like Lexington High School reduced in any measure because we fail now to address our problems.

—Lois Coit



The School Committee has three basic functions: to set policy, to guide the superintendent, and to provide communication between the citizens, parents, and students of Lexington and the school system. I believe that my experience, particularly in town government, can help to make the Committee more effective in these functions and in providing quality education in Lexington. I am a business-man-scientist with experience in management, a parent whose four children have been or are now in the Lexington schools, and a 1958 LHS graduate.

Drug Policy

The school system's policy on drugs must be clear: no drugs or drug use in the schools. Because of the grave responsibility associated with counseling students on drug problems, school personnel are not authorized to deal with these problems on a confidential basis. Some judgment by the staff, particularly those who have special training, is probably reasonable in carrying out this policy. Other qualified individuals or groups like RePlace are available. Information on these resources should be widely disseminated.

NEASC Report/Teacher Morale

While much of the NEASC report is positive, poor teacher morale at High School was prominently noted in the report. While many people have indicated that teacher morale is a long-standing problem, not much hard information exists. Perhaps a qualified panel which enjoys the confidence of all concerned groups could be appointed to explore this issue and provide recommendations.

Waring Dismissal

The dismissal of Dr. Waring and subsequent events have been sad and difficult for all concerned. Students at the High School have been subjected to their share of anxiety over this issue. I believe all involved feel that a time for healing has come and hope that the "new initiative" of the School Committee will rapidly bring this matter to an equitable settlement.

New Superintendent

Dr. Philip Geiger is a strong and energetic superintendent with new ideas for the school system. This year's school budget process under Dr. Geiger has been refreshingly open and professional. Like any new and vigorous leader, Dr. Geiger has created some uncertainty and even apprehension about where his ideas will lead the school system and what impacts they will have on us personally. I am confident that in partnership with a considerate and able School Committee, Dr. Geiger will serve Lexington well.

—John A. Oberteuffer

Students Twist the College Process

At this point in the year, the majority of the senior class is breathing a sigh of relief as the final college applications are tucked into envelopes and sent roaming all over the country. A reflection on the past few months shows that the college application process manifested and exposed many of our less attractive qualities. As the concept of college grew like a fungus on our morals, numerous seniors became deceptive, hypocritical, selfish, and manipulative.

For many, the first symptoms appeared last summer during the endless array of college tours and interviews.

The process of finding a college has undermined our self-esteem and turned us against our peers. The thought of another student's seeking admission at our first choice is horrifying.

Prospective students, overrunning the offices of admission, stank of deception. Young gentlemen arrived for their interviews in neatly pressed suits, shoes shined to perfection, and awkwardly knotted neck ties, despite the ninety degree heat and un-airconditioned facilities. The overall appearance suggested chronic meticulous grooming. Reality proved otherwise. Moments before, I had witnessed these imposters in cut-off shorts, wrinkled T-shirts, and dirty socks, sticky from the humidity. Obviously, a respectable and proper visual appearance concerned them more than comfort or wearing clothes which reflected their

life style and personality.

After presenting himself in a respectable manner, the prospective's next step was to boast of all the wonderful, meaningful activities that occupy his busy day. Yet, the truth is unavoidable. Generally, teenagers prefer sleeping late and going out with friends to performing community service. I know I would rather be at the movies than tutoring geometry.

Extracurricular activities are rarely enjoyed for what they are. High school students corrupt teams, clubs, and councils by hoarding them indiscriminately for the purpose of filling out college applications. Although many learn to enjoy the activity for itself, I have heard countless students reporting in gleeful voices that they managed to fill all the "extracurricular activities" spaces on their applications with meaningless commitments.

The process of finding a college has undermined our self-esteem and turned us against our peers. The thought of another Lexington student's seeking admission at our first choice is horrifying. That person poses a threat to our chances of acceptance. News of another applicant is cause for a mental or vocal expression of disbelief, shock, and injustice. I have seen wonderful human beings turn into malicious, greedy monsters, sabotaging friends' attempts to

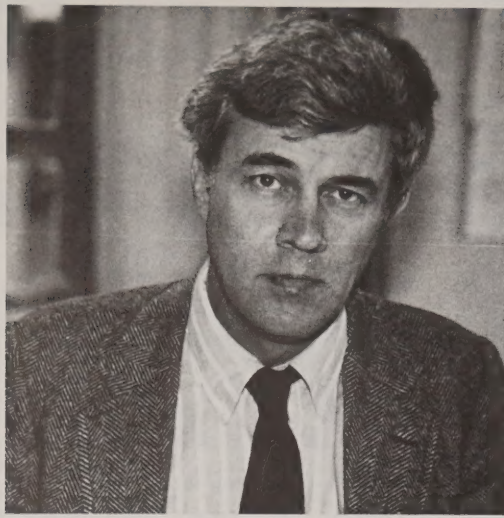


apply to "their" schools. People mysteriously misplace applications when friends or acquaintances ask for copies.

Some members of the senior class thrive on the attendance policy on which Class Council operates. Four absences and you are removed from office. The incentive for attending Class Council meetings is reduced to the threat that Mr. Robinson will notify the colleges to which you have applied of your dismissal. It is distressing that this system is necessary to provide the proper motivation. Members unhesitatingly skip three meetings, but rarely a fourth. This is but one of many examples of students' manipulation of school activities for their own greedy motives.

It truly is a pity that a process that will have such a grand effect on our lives has become a twisted competition which saps so many students' integrity.

—Miriam Friedlander



Principal Michael G. Waring's priority is to maintain the staffing level he has suggested. Waring did not think the High School would be much affected by any eventual budget cuts.

Musket File Photo

Proposed Budget Shows Large Increase

By Annika Hipple

The School Committee recently voted to retain the \$50,000 middle school sports program in next year's school budget, a decision which means that \$50,000 must be eliminated elsewhere from the \$26.4 million budget proposal.

Although next year's budget includes a \$2.3 million, 9.75 percent increase over this year's budget, it does not provide funding to maintain all current programs.

In the words of Principal Michael G. Waring, "We are dealing with a limited-sized pie and are trying to carve it in a way that accommodates as many needs as possible."

Waring said he did not think the High School would be much affected by any eventual budget cuts. He mentioned the possible elimination of sophomore basketball, which only exists for boys,

but said, "That may be driven as much by the pool of sophomore basketball players as it is by the amount of money that we need to pay the coach."

Waring also said, "To me the most important thing is trying to maintain the staffing level that I have suggested; that is, the number of teachers for next year. If we can do that, I think that everything will be fine."

According to Superintendent of the Schools Philip E. Geiger, funding for teacher sabbaticals has been eliminated from the budget, and more resources have been allocated for shorter training sessions and professional development for all teachers. The average amount set aside per teacher for professional development has been raised from \$50 to \$500. Although he noted that two sabbaticals are being considered for next year, the funds would have to

be taken from another part of the budget.

Lexington Education Association (LEA) president and Science Department Head Margaret Schwartz said, "I do agree that you [serve] more people by doling money out. From the point of view of running the school system, it's a reasonable choice."

"I don't know that it [the decision to eliminate sabbaticals] was done in the best possible way," she continued, "I think it would have been better for people to have a bit more of an opportunity to talk about it."

Under the new budget proposal, students who receive instrumental instruction in elementary schools next year will be charged \$100. Waring said that the School Committee was initially planning to cut the elementary program altogether, but decided on the fee instead. According to Waring, "For some people that means cutting it out because they can't afford it or even if they can afford it they're not willing to pay."

As for middle school inter-

NEASC Report Assesses LHS

Continued from page 2

ability here gets the fairly narrow definition of chasing kids around the school to make sure they are where they should be. There's more important things for teachers to do."

In the spring, the Commission on Public Schools, a separate body of the NEASC, will vote to decide whether to give the High School a full 10-year accreditation, an accreditation for a fewer number

cism, the report called it a "major priority" for the High School to "reexamine the array of courses offerings available to non-college students and provide for their needs."

It acknowledged, however, that teachers "recognize the problem and wish to remedy it."

The report cited the elimination of level-three courses in certain areas such as chemistry and physics and recommended that the High School "provide adequate level-three options in all academic areas."

It continued that the High School should have more "remedial and academic support services" and "heterogeneously grouped courses" for the non-college-bound student.

Waring said, "Yes, it's true. I think we don't always look at a youngster that is not college-bound and ask, 'Is there any particular way in which school can be better for him?'"

"It is the lack of a support system that has been a problem so that's an excellent observation," added Waring.

Waring said, however, that he thinks the High School is making efforts to improve the situation. He explained that for the first time the guidance department held an activity called *What's*

Next for all seniors who have not applied to college. At the session, the guidance counselors will discuss the various options and opportunities for these students.

In reference to the elimination of level-three courses, Waring pointed out that these courses were being reinstated in both chemistry and physics in the 1989-90 school year.

He also stated, "Sometimes I think it's better not to run level-three courses if we can properly encourage students to take level-two courses because I think that higher expectations are good for anybody."

Guidance counselor Richard Conant said, "The guidance staff believes that the non-college-bound student needs more curriculum offerings and services, but it's not a priority for the school. The school has a reputation for being a place for energetic independent learners and kids who don't fit into that category, not just non-college-bound students, don't always have their needs met."

He added, "there's lots of kids who could benefit from a different kind of education — alternative programs, expanded home economics and industrial arts, life skills, [and] communication skills..."

Included in the report are two

pages of recommendations on how to improve the physical plant of the High School. Waring said that many of the suggestions "probably would not be" acted on because "there has been an exponential growth in cost for building alteration throughout the years."

Yet, he continued, "It's an axiom in public school affairs that if you want to have significant changes in your plant, you hope for some very strong negative comments in your NEASC report because that does cut some clout."

Waring pointed out that the student library has been expanded as a result of a suggestion from the 1978 NEASC report.

Under the heading of atmosphere, the report said, "The physical lay-out of the High School centers on a feeling of isolation contributing to the polarization of groups and the development of cliques. Differences in class and race contribute to a feeling of isolation for some members of the student body."

Report on Senate

Continued from page 1

Cooley, neither encouraged to speak nor told how to go about voicing their opinions.

"I think that was pretty abominable," he said. "Without the students, there is no Senate, no issues." Cooley added that special-interest groups such as the skateboarders should have Senate procedures explained to them.

For the January 25 and February 1 sessions, the Senate met in two different groups. One group, chaired by senior Michelle Sheehy, was charged with examining the Senate's current meeting time of X-block. The other group, chaired by Levy, discussed ways "to promote attendance at Senate meetings and to publicize Senate business."

The former group reaffirmed that the exclusivity of X-block is guaranteed under the present LHS Constitution. Its second meeting, on February 1, was attended by Geiger. Geiger explained that although he felt the Senate had some value, allowing the remainder of the high school community to leave the campus was not a constructive use of time. He noted that merchants in Lexington center complain of the numbers of students populating the area.

Visiting non-senator Jared Enin, a senior, suggested that X-block be moved to the morning. Pointing to the success of conference days, Waring commented that this re-locating of X-block would probably minimize the

number of students using Lexington center.

In addition, the group debated the idea of having the Senate meet for an hour and a half block once every two weeks. The second meeting concluded with the following motion of special needs teacher William Meade: The subcommittee on meeting time recommends to the Senate that the Senate meet once a week under our current system or once a cycle under a six-day cycle, and that our meeting time be moved to the first period of the day.

When the entire Senate reconvened on February 8, Levy spoke of his committee's recommendations. It was suggested that Senate fliers be placed in cafeterias every two weeks. Also, the committee presented the idea that each senator have an informal annual quota of non-senators to bring to Senate meetings.

Motions were passed to institute the reading of the Senate agenda prior to each meeting, and to have student senators read Senate updates during Tuesday and Friday homeroom periods.

During the January 11 session, which marked the end of a meeting that had been continuing since November 30, the Skateboarding Bill was passed by a 21-11 vote. Skateboard use is now prohibited on high school grounds from 7:30 am to 3:00 pm. Violators will have their skateboards confiscated, for the rest of the day on their first offense, and to the end of the year on their third offense.

"Because [LHS] has always prided itself on the democratic process, the teachers and students feel disappointed with new administrative fiat."

—NEASC Report

of years, or to put the High School on probation.

"Obviously they don't have to give us a 10-year accreditation, but I'm presuming they will," said Waring, "I don't think that there's any doubt about our accreditation."

If the High School receives a 10-year accreditation, the longest accreditation given by the NEASC, it will be considered a "valid educational institution" until 1998 when the NEASC will return to evaluate the High School.

Waring stated, "The one recommendation I think was most significant was the comment that while our philosophy says we try to address multicultural concerns and diversity, the people who visited couldn't find programs that did so. That is very appropriate and that should be a goal."

In the words of the NEASC report, the High School should "include, in performances and assemblies, activities that reflect multicultural topics and issues that attract a larger number and wider variety of students."

The report said that "the serious college-bound students are being well served" at the High School and "the vast majority of students receive a thorough well rounded education."

A major criticism of the High School expressed in the report, however, was that the school "should address the needs of the non-college-bound student and improve the program to better prepare these students for entry in to the world of work."

In connection with this criti-



"Teachers feel insecure about the trend within the school system towards an emphasis on management and accountability. It is accountability at the expense of teachers," said LEA President Margaret Schwartz.

Musket File Photo

Teacher, Traveler, and Storyteller

By Angela Yin

Contrary to the popular belief that teachers can do nothing but stand in front of classes and lecture, Charles O'Reilly, a LHS physics and chemistry teacher, is both interesting and "human."

In his classes, O'Reilly talks about his various trips around the world. Not many people have been dragged off by the Colombian army for taking forbidden pictures, stranded on the northernmost point of Norway, or forced to shave off a beard at the Czechoslovakian border. He tells these stories with a flourish to entertain his classes. His reason for this? He believes that student ought to find learning enjoyable.

On his desk, O'Reilly keeps pictures of his family because it is important for him to receive human contact and to establish personal relationships with each of his students. However, O'Reilly does not involve himself with his students' extracurricular activities such as the Student/Faculty Senate and sports teams. He expresses a "certain amount of guilt" at this lack of involvement and admits it is a weakness in his role as a teacher.

Ironically, when O'Reilly was in school, he did not place a high value on learning. His hometown was the small fishing village of Rockport, Maine. Never intending to go to college, he became a lobsterman like his father. However, he was not satisfied with the rough life of a third-generation lobsterman and eventually came to place more value on education.

In 1957, the Soviet Union launched Sputnik into space, the first artificial satellite. O'Reilly remembers that in the United States, citizens' pride was hurt because the United States' technology had not kept pace with that of the Soviets. To rectify this problem, the United States government instituted many new scientific programs which offered students with aptitude in math the opportunity to enter scientific fields. Friends and relatives encouraged O'Reilly to enter the program. Yet, his

motivation for going into science was more practical than romantic.

Assuming that he would become a chemical engineer upon graduation, O'Reilly majored in chemistry and received his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. In his junior year at UMass, he took a course that had a major impact on his life. This course, *The Philosophy of Science*, revealed to O'Reilly a "strong philosophical undercurrent" in physics that interested him a great deal. He began to question whether he wanted to be a scientist and decided that he did not enjoy either the research itself or the time necessary for the research.

After receiving Master's Degrees both in Science Education from Harvard University and in Special Education from Northeastern University, O'Reilly, in 1965, began teaching at a public school in Natick. Eventually, he became a physics teacher at LHS after having worked as a special education resource teacher for eight years. O'Reilly believes that the subject of physics is important and feels very strongly about it. However, he is also aware of the

Not many people have been dragged off by the Colombian army for taking forbidden pictures.

other demands on students when assigning major projects or tests.

Year after year, O'Reilly enjoys teaching in Lexington. In both reciting lobster-fishing stories and teaching Newton's laws, according to O'Reilly, there is a "certain joy in learning" for his students and a joy for himself in imparting this learning to his students.

Peer Counseling Training for the Connection Hotline (861-1233) is about to start! The 12-week training program will begin March 15 and will meet every Wednesday from 2:30 to 4:30. Call 862-8130 and ask for Tina or Jeannine for details.

Zobel Releases Written Waring Case Report

Continued from page 1

tenured in April, 1985. In July, 1987, Dr. Isa Zimmerman, then Interim Superintendent of Schools wrote to Waring's Massachusetts Teachers Association [MTA] lawyer that Waring's dismissal was based on "grounds of inefficiency, the breach of an agreement with Superintendent of Schools [Geoffrey] Pierson without which Dr. Waring would not have been granted tenure, and the inappropriate utilization of a faculty meeting over which he presided."

Zobel wrote, "At all times pertinent to the issues at bar, Waring's performance as Principal of Lexington High School was neither inefficient, incompetent, or insubordinate."

Of the controversial June 16, 1987 faculty meeting, Zobel wrote, "Nothing [Waring] said was disrespectful of the school administration, the School Committee, or any member of either. Nor did he in any way seek to set the faculty at defiance of any person or group. He explicitly dissuaded any campaign of support. His language permits the inference, which I draw, that he aimed to stimulate discussion, not to foment rebellion or mutiny. Each of the matters he mentioned had been of concern to the school

community generally, and to the faculty particularly."

Later Zobel stated, "I find that had Waring not spoken as he did at the June 16 meeting: (a) Pierson would not have recommended Waring's suspension (or dismissal); and (b) the School Committee would not have suspended him."

Under the heading *Conclusions of Law*, Zobel wrote, "Waring's comments to the faculty...involved a proper response to facul-

"...Waring's performance as Principal of Lexington High School was neither inefficient, incompetent, or insubordinate."

—Judge Zobel's written decision

ty concerns. The remarks were made in an appropriate forum and manner, and are 'protected' speech...Waring was neither insubordinate nor disloyal in his actions on June 16, 1987."

In addition, Zobel wrote, "Pierson [in spring of 1985] believed, incorrectly, that Waring had agreed that if, in the future, Pierson asked for Waring's resignation, Waring would comply. When Pierson did recommend that the School Committee tenure Waring, he told the School Committee about this supposed agreement."

Waring denied that any such agreement took place.

Zobel concluded, "An agreement between a superintendent and a tenured principal that the tenured principal agree to resign upon request is not legally enforceable."

Possible Appeal

According to School Committee member Zabin, lawyers from both sides asked the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts (SJC) to take the case directly if the appeal occurs, thus bypassing an intermediate appeals court.

Waring said the SJC would hear the case "sometime in the summer or fall," and it could be "well into next school year before the final court decision on the matter. Until then, I still work here."

When asked whether an appeal would be a financial problem, Waring said, "it could be." He said he has not received any back pay

yet, and is still being paid at the rate he was in 1986-87, except for a slight increase given to all holders of doctorate degrees.

"They also withheld my salary increment as a separate action

"[The School Committee members] are after the settlement; I want to work here."

—Principal Michael G. Waring

apart from the dismissal action, and that's still in dispute as well. I'm still fighting that on a different front," said Waring. "That could mean a substantial additional amount of money that would be due me."

A new twist in the legal proceedings may occur after the School Committee election on March 6. Vacating their committee seats are Newman and Florence Koplow, both of whom voted for Waring's dismissal in 1987.

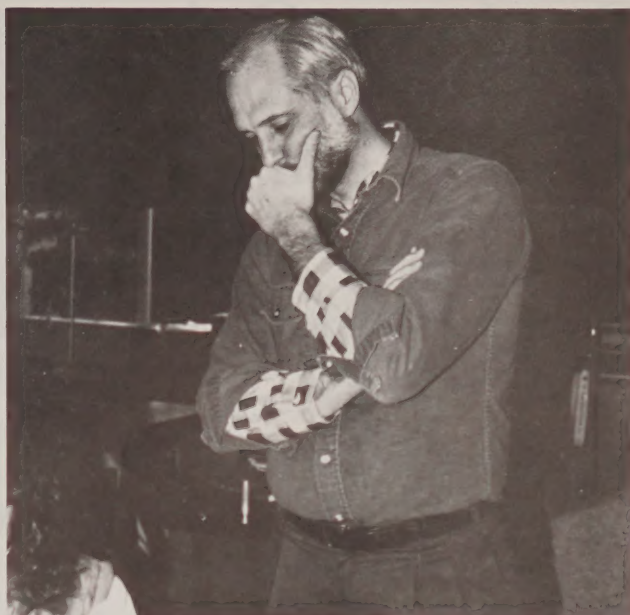
Newman denied that he and Koplow were in any way "passing the buck." "We were very careful

confesses — and to the fact that he is left-handed. All left-handed fencers know how to fence against the much more common right-handed fencers, but the reverse is not true. He mentions only briefly that he does not have the ideal body type for fencing; a tall, long-limbed, skinny body is the hardest for an opponent to strike, since the target area is the torso.

Another difficulty with his chosen sport that Kleinmann does not dwell upon is the time commitment that fencing demands.

Although some of his friends "reject" fencing because it is his "first priority," Kleinmann says that his parents have supported his involvement with the sport. He plans to continue fencing in college; there is no reason for him to quit now, since "the challenge" of tough competition is what he likes best about the sport. "It's a real accomplishment for me to perform at my best," he explains.

Peter Kleinmann thinks that people should do individual sports for "fun" otherwise the "pressure is too great"; he is clearly someone who follows his own advice.



Science teacher Charles O'Reilly strokes the beard which has grown back since Czechoslovakian authorities demanded its removal at their border.

Photo by Mako Yoshino

En Garde! the Cry of Senior Fencer

Continued from page 3

vulnerable to an alert opponent. Because of this danger, he says that "when you think, you think for very short periods" of time.

He seems to have mastered this form of fractured concentration; during the 1987-88 season, Kleinmann was undefeated in the under-seventeen age group of the United States Fencing Association, New England Division (USFA NED). At the 1986 Bay State Games he took fourth place for the Épée, one of the three types of weapons used in fencing and actually not the type with which he is most proficient. He took first place for both the Épée and the Foil, his preferred weapon, in the 1987 Bay State Games. He placed first in 1987 and second in 1986 with the Foil in the USFA NED Junior Olympic Qualifiers for the under-seventeen age group, as well as winning "a bunch of age group stuff."

Kleinmann attributes this impressive record in part to the small number of competing fencers in his division — "you look at the field [size] and you could cry," he

to set the date for the decision when we would still be there," he said, "We didn't put it off."

"Obviously the future School Committee can do whatever it wants. Typically, however, bodies don't reverse a decision because people are different," he said.

"We dismissed [Waring] over a year ago because we thought that was right," said Newman. "We felt, looking at the evidence and the [former Superintendent Pierson's] recommendation that the school would be better off with somebody else as principal."

"I think it's possible that with the new election this may come to an end, but there's no guarantee there," said Waring. "I am prepared at this point to wait until the SJC renders a decision in this matter."

On December 20, the School Committee voted 3-2 to wait until January 17 to decide on whether or not to pursue an appeal. Members voting in the majority, Newman, Koplow, and Judy Leader, expressed hopes that Zobel's written decision would be completed by this time. The decision, they said, would allow them to further examine Zobel's reasoning for reinstating Waring and therefore enable the School Committee to weigh its chances for winning an appeal.

Students Gain Art Awards

Continued from page 2

also in Boston. LHS had 9 individual Blue Ribbon winners. Melora Kuhn led the way with two Blue Ribbons. Kelly Burke, Helen Chang, Charles Giller, Jennifer Goodwin, Lora Haarstick, Yoongee Hong, Jeremy Marin, Matthew Ostrom, and Renice Pleasants all received Blue Ribbons. Winners there will be sent to New York, on March 7, for the National Finals. The portfolios of Jonathan Brecher, Kuhn, and Mako Yoshino will also be sent on to the Finals.

According to Ciano, Lexington earned more awards than any other school in Massachusetts for 14 years before dropping out of the competition for the last five years prior to this school year, due to problems with work getting lost, broken, or stolen, and reservations about the quality of the judging. Ciano cited photography teacher Jack Zichitella and art teacher Natalie Yarnall as the "driving force" behind the High School's return to the contest. Zichitella was one of the judges for the event in another region of the state.

"[Getting ready] was a lot of hard work," said Yarnall, "we think it's important for kids to get scholarships, etc."

Art teacher Norma Regillo, who had two student winners, said, "I'm very happy about it. I think

they deserved it because they did excellent work."

LHS winners include the following (G stands for Gold Key, H for Honorable Mention): Derek Armstrong (G), Brecher (2G)(2H), Matthew Brown (H), Burke (G), Sheila Cannon (H), Chang (G), Sharon Dratch (H), Giller (G), Goodwin (G), Sarah Gladstone (2G), Haarstick (G), Hong (G), Kuhn (2G)(3H), Karen Lacourse (H), Marin (G), Ostrom (G), Scott Oberholzer (G), Pleasants (G), Rachel Reinhardt (3G), Andrew Romero (G), Jonah Schiller (H), Annie Tao (G), Jonathan Yoken (H), Yoshino (G)(2H).

Debate Tournament

On January 13-14 weekend, Lexington High School held its annual Winter Debate Tournament. Over 150 debaters, some from as far away as Florida, participated. "[The tournament] was a great success," said LHS Debate Coach Les Phillips. "Things ran smoothly, perhaps more so than in other years, partially due to the helpful co-operation of many Lexington debaters and parents." In addition, several ex-Lexington debaters served as judges.

Skateboarders Face Extinction

Continued from page 3

Sophomore Evan Gerber, who said, "If it's crowded, I won't skate." He suggested that the skaters aren't without consideration or judgment. Bowes said, "We don't try to hurt anybody."

Shrugging, Freshman George Wang said, "There's nothing bad [about the bill] but it could be a problem in the spring." Wang laughed at the rationale of the bill by commenting, "If we get hurt, our parents aren't going to go

around suing."

However, last year a small accident involving skateboarding did occur: Sophomore Kate O'Sullivan was hit by a skateboard and suffered what she said "was just a black eye." She described the incident as being caused by a student who "didn't know what he was doing." But O'Sullivan mentioned that it was a student who was experimenting with a skater's board. She defended the skaters, saying, "I still think that people should be allowed to skate."



Having demonstrated true competitive spirit in diving for a loose ball against Melrose, junior Billy Brinklow lies injured on the court with a mouth wound. Unfortunately, the Minutemen went on to lose for the second time to Melrose, 88-69. Photo by Jon Yoken

Hoopsters Shooting for State Competition

Continued from page 10

off and played all five positions himself. Oh well. The Lexington fans had to settle with a buzzer-beating shot, a little bit of overtime, and some highlight film footage from you-know-who.

Both teams began slowly. It was not until 5:35 that the first basket was scored. As the pace picked up, the Amazing Mumford (26 total points) had three steals, six points, and two rebounds. By the end of the first quarter, Belmont was up by one, 11-10.

By 5:55 in the second quarter, the Lexington natives were getting restless. Belmont had managed to go on a 10-0 run to bring the score to 21-10. The Minutemen woke up in time, and by 3:50 they had cut Belmont's lead to a manageable 3 points, 23-20. A jump shot from senior Matt Tait pulled the boys in blue and gold ahead with 1:35 left, 29-28, but the half-time lead was Belmont's, 31-29.

By the end of the third, the Minutemen had neither gained nor lost any ground. Belmont was still up by two, 46-44.

The fourth quarter was the nail-biter. The lead changed hands and reached its highest point with :46 left in the game. Belmont was up by four, 60-56. At :34 junior Jon Berg missed a shot, and Lexington fans felt the L for loss etching itself in their hearts. Lexington fouled Belmont to try to gain pos-

session. The unfortunate Belmont player missed the first of the one and one fouls shots, and Mumford took possession of the ball. He was fouled on the shot, and made the first but not the second foul shot, to bring the score to 60-57, with :25 left.

Neither team could get a hand on the ball until senior Mike Liederman (8 points) took charge and buried a jump shot. A time-out was called with :13 left, yet the clock continued ticking. By the time play was resumed, the Minutemen had lost two seconds, and it appeared their third game of the season.

Down by one, the Minutemen fouled Belmont. The Marauders made one of the shots. At the buzzer, the Amazing Mumford took a jump shot that went in. The Lexington crowd went wild...until the Belmont crowd went wild. It appeared that the referees ruled that the shot had not been taken in time. Just as soon as that decision was made, it was reversed, and the game went into overtime.

With jumpers by Mumford and sophomore starter Brad Martin (16 points) and two free throws from junior big man Jeff Kvaal, the

Minutemen pulled ahead 67-61. The Minutemen supporters had quite a scare when it appeared that senior Tony Davis could not get up after being knocked to the ground. Davis was a little shaken up but still intact.

With two more foul shots from Mumford, Lexington had carved a pleasant lead for themselves. A Belmont three-pointer cut the lead to five. They fouled Mumford with about a minute left on the clock. He missed the second shot and Belmont had possession. Martin fouled a Marauder, who made both shots. Down by four with :48 left, Belmont became desperate. They threw up shot after shot, but it was no use. The last prayer for Belmont vanished as David Hadley pulled down the rebound. The win was Lexington's, and as a going away present the Amazing Mumford showed Belmont the correct way to slam-dunk.

To sum up his team's season thus far, Coach Farias is philosophical. "We tripped a little bit, but we haven't fallen. We tripped a little, but we're still around. We're still Lexington — and for that I give the kids a lot of credit."

Budget Increase

Continued from page 6

inate \$50,000 elsewhere in the budget by combining the elementary school positions of Coordinator of Reading and Coordinator of Language Arts into a single job called Coordinator of Language Arts and Reading. The eliminated \$50,000 salary could be used for salaries of middle school sports coaches.

Waring emphasized that this was a proposal "made, but not necessarily approved by the School Committee...They did not approve the recommendation yet, so there may be some other way in

which they may use [the \$50,000 that would result from the consolidation of the two administrative positions.] That money could go away again, middle school sports could go away again, or something else could go away. It's not determined yet."

However, School Committee Chairman Paul Newman said that the vote to retain middle school sports was definite.

Schwartz explained, "Technically the whole thing is a proposed budget right up until the time the Town Meeting passes the warrant article in which the money is included."



A CBS film crew tapes an interview with senior Janet Doherty. The interview, which will be shown soon on national television, was about Doherty's campaign to bring recycling, particularly of lunch trays, to the Lexington school system. Doherty originally hoped to ban the use of styrofoam trays in the schools. Last school year, she obtained 300 signatures on a petition forwarding this cause. The petition was then given to the School Committee, but after discovering that cardboard trays cost twice as much as styrofoam ones, Doherty was partial to Genpak Cooperation's offer to pilot a recycling at Clarke Middle School. The success of that program eventually brought recycling to the High School. Genpak also recycles sporks and fruit cups. Photo by Mako Yoshino

Theatre Pharmacy

1784 Mass. Ave. 862-4480

Flowers at the Depot, Inc.
11 Depot Square
Lexington, MA 02173
Tel. 863-1108

Wrestlers Aim for Next Year

By Kristin Lieb

While Lexington's wrestling team has not yet posted a win this season, a few of its members have experienced enormous individual success.

According to Head Coach George Nichols, "Kevin Joseph is the surprise of the season." Joseph, a freshman, has dominated the Middlesex League 103-pound weight class and has won respect from other competitors outside of the league, winning his division at the Catholic Memorial Meet. In addition, he placed fourth at the Belmont Invitational.

Teammate Seryvuth Tan, a sophomore, has had similar success both inside and outside of the Middlesex League competition. Tan dominated the 112-pound weight class in the league, and fared impressively in a second place performance at the C.M.I. invite. Tan won the Belmont Invitational meet, becoming a widely recognized wrestler at the same time.

Nichols has a group of wrestlers who are expected to improve greatly with experience. Nichols said, "We have a team of hard workers, but that doesn't win matches. The wins will come in time, it's just experience we lack."

"The best part about this year's team," commented Nichols, "is that I have them all back next year."

Junior Dan Kulin (130 pounds) and junior Mike Hill (135 pounds)

have wrestled commendably, securing victories in a number of high pressured matches. Both fared well at the invitationals, winning a couple of matches apiece. Junior Peter Abraham (140 pounds) came on strong late in the season and, according to Nichols, "is improving every day and has consistently been one of the hardest workers on the team." Sophomore David Alperhovich (145 pounds) is another hard-working wrestler who has improved a great deal from the beginning of the season.

Junior Bobby Joseph was prevented from having the type of season he is capable because of injuries, but wrestled well when he was able. At the C.M.I. tournament, he placed fifth in the 152-pound weight division.

Senior Aaron Korff wrestled well in the 160-pound weight class, winning a number of meets within the Middlesex League. In addition, Korff wrestled particularly well at the Belmont Invitational in his fourth place finish.

Mark Manfredi, a sophomore, has been the clutch performer of the year. His performances within the league this year have made other coaches aware that Manfredi will be a force to be reckoned with in the future years. Freshman Gerard Marino was the only JV wrestler this year, but showed that he has varsity potential for next year.

Reflecting on the 1989 season,



Swerving to avoid the Belmont defender, junior Brian Kirk (5) prepares to fire at the Belmont goal guarded by goalie David Pomer. Despite Kirk's efforts, Belmont won the contest, 4-1. The varsity ice hockey team is suffering a poor season, presently occupying eighth place in the Middlesex League.

Photo by Jon Yoken

Boys Place 2nd

Continued from page 10

Junior Nick Nebolsine has been a league force in the 600-yard run. Nebolsine has run many exciting come-from-behind victories and has only suffered two losses. Nebolsine is backed up by seniors Sang Ahn and Yeh-Kai Tung, both of whom have had fine seasons.

Senior Zeke Weeks has performed superbly for the Minutemen in the high jump. New to the event, Weeks has filled in nicely for now-recovered senior Doug Wilson, clearing a personal best height of 5'6".

Senior Jeff Wood has been Lexington's primary person in the

shot-put. Wood's best throw is 42'6", slightly better than senior George Lang, another 40 foot thrower.

Other Lexington runners enjoying fine seasons are senior Mike Grynberg, who is just a tenth of a second behind Wong every race, sophomore Yeh-Jiun Tung, who has performed consistently in the 2-mile and senior David Schaye, who joined the team mid-way through the season and is running in full season form.

But despite losing to Reading earlier, the team is content with second place. After all, Reading has won the league for the past how many years? Try six.

Maids Shock Wakefield

By Jen Haskell

As it passes the halfway point in their season, the LHS Girl's basketball team has achieved a record of 8-7 in the Middlesex League and 8-9 overall. Many of the games have been very close in score, one went into overtime and another into double overtime.

The Minutemaids began their season with a bang as they convincingly defeated their first two opponents, Stoneham and Melrose. In Stoneham, senior Gretchen McCullough led the charge contributing 23 points to the final 48-37 score. Next, with the combination of great offense by juniors Shelli Adamian and Mary Barry and the outstanding defense of senior Caryn Suffredini, the team squeezed by Melrose, 45-35.

The next five games were excruciatingly close but the Minutemaids lost all five to Belmont, Woburn, Wakefield, Bishop Fenwick and Swampscott. In the Bishop Fenwick overtime loss, Barry scored her season high as she poured in 23 points.

The losing streak was stopped, however, when Lexington faced Winchester. Up by 12 points at the half, Lexington slacked off and the Sachems rallied to come within two points with five minutes left in the game. But in the last minute, senior Jen Haskell nailed two free throws to give the team a 37-36 win.

The next game was decided by one point also, but this time Lexington was on the short end of the stick, losing to Watertown in double overtime. Everyone on the team gave strong performances, but the combination of one strong Watertown player and two inconsistent referees eradicated Lexington's chances for victory. Adamian had 29 points for the night and was helped by great play from McCullough, Suffredini, freshman Cathy Urban, and junior Janet Ascolese.

Starting off the second half of the season, the Minutemaids beat Stoneham 55-28. They next faced Melrose in a game that wasn't as easy as they expected. Up by only

one at the half, Lexington found itself tied with Melrose with ten seconds left in the game. With 8 seconds left, Adamian shot the ball but it bounced off the rim. However, Tammy Hadley grabbed the rebound and shot, just beating the buzzer and giving Lexington its sixth win.

The high point for the Minutemaids came in the form of a 60-46 victory over Wakefield. Last year's defending Division II

state champions, Wakefield had a 45-game home winning streak. McCullough scored 22 points and Adamian sank 16. Haskell pulled down 18 rebounds.

Lexington has played very well this season, but with five games left, the Minutemaids need five victories to enter the state tournament. They face many strong teams in the upcoming weeks. It remains to be seen what will be their fate.

The Answer to Why People Run

By Kristin Lieb

Runners are regularly asked why they voluntarily participate in recreational or competitive running. To the outsider, there are only three feasible reasons for people to run. Simply stated, one is either chased, mentally ill, or masochistic.

The Lexington High School Indoor Track teammates offered some more reasonable suggestions about why they and countless others run: controlling weight, improving health, release from various frustrations, increasing organizational abilities, achieving the feeling of winning, and strengthening character.

Two sophomore girls said that they run to both feel and look good. The first said that she ran so that she could "look good on the beach in the summer," while the other said she ran so that she could "fit into her bathing suit."

A few track athletes said that the health benefits accrued are the most rewarding element of running. The general idea was that running compensated for bad eating habits or other unhealthy tendencies.

A universal reason for running was expressed by a number of distance runners, who like the relief they feel after they have completed a workout. One said, "No matter how bad you feel, you can run it off. Running is such a release. Most people think it's tiring when it really is very relaxing." In general, runners said that they felt

healthier and more energetic in all of their other activities as a result of running.

Many runners claimed that running teaches discipline and organization. "Without track," said one distance runner, "I would not be able to get a thing done. Running teaches you how to focus your attention on a single thing and to organize your thoughts. This

organization definitely carries over into my school work."

What is the most satisfying part of any sport? To many athletes it is the winning, and track participants think along the same lines. While workouts are tough, they seem insignificant when the athlete wins or improves his or her time. One hurdler commented, "Winning is just a coming together

of tough workouts, discipline, and dedication." A teammate added, "When you know you've tried your hardest, and successfully met your goals, there can be no greater happiness. Improvement and success assure you that your everlasting practice hours have been well spent." Many runners run to win, while the others run to be for personal satisfaction.

Running can also build character. A number of runners claimed that surviving an impossible practice or achieving a seemingly out-of-reach time makes them feel as if they can do anything. Eventually, workouts provide runners with a true sense of an all around well-being. One middle-distance runner said, "Workouts become addictive after a while. When you occasionally have to miss one, the entire rest of your day is ruined, and you feel as if you've accomplished nothing."

Also contrary to popular belief, running is a team sport. While the races are individualistic, there is still a strong sense of team unity. Runners understand their teammates because everyone more or less endures the same trials and tribulations of the sport. For that reason, runners also push each other to higher achievements. The sense of team unity attracts many people to organized running.

When you see them out in the rain and snow, understand why runners run. Runners do not run to inflict self-pain, but rather to the many rewards of their



Concentrating on beating his Stoneham opponent, sophomore Kenneth Richards exemplifies his commitment to the sprint.

Photo by Mark

Minutemen Strive for Successful Finish

By Sarah Estow

The Lexington Boys' basketball team's record now stands at 15 wins and three losses, losing twice to Melrose and most recently to Watertown.

While it appears that the Minutemen will not repeat as Middlesex League champions — and their streak will be ended at a mere five — basketball prophets predict that they will enter the state tournament with the identical record as that compiled by last year's team. That should be enough to provide them with the home-court advantage for a couple of early-round games; this Lexington team, less highly-rated than last year's version, could end up upsetting the state's elite squad — including Melrose, Cambridge, and even Durllee, the defending State Champions.

The reason the team is held in relatively low regard can be traced to the two sound beatings suffered at the hands of the irreverent Red Raiders. In the first match-up

with Melrose, the Minutemen fell, 64-49. Lloyd Mumford and the 30 points he averages per game were clearly missed. Out with a virus, the senior was unable to provide the leadership upon which his teammates have come to rely.

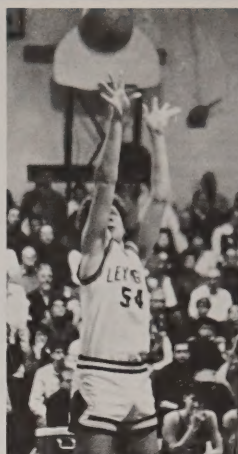
The Minutemen were hoping to avenge their only loss and to at least secure a co-Middlesex League title with a win over the Red Raiders during their second meeting. Unfortunately, Melrose had other plans and routed Lexington 88-69. Coach Farias attributes this loss to the teams' first meeting.

"I think that they [Melrose] got the momentum early and this caused them to have some confidence in themselves. I think that they played as well as any team has ever played against us," he said. "They did every single thing correctly and we paid the price." That price will probably include the Middlesex League title, though Farias was quick to note that if Melrose loses three games, the Red Raiders will share the title

with the Minutemen.

"I'm not counting on the title. Realistically, we are preparing for the [state] tournament now...our goal is to win as many games as we can to get a couple of home games in the tournament," the coach said. "That's the beauty of basketball. It isn't like you lose the league and it's all over."

The Billy-Brinklow-and-Brian-Sheehan-less (both recovering from injuries) Minutemen certainly were not ready to give up, as they showed against the 5-5 Belmont Raiders. The game could have been more exciting. Perhaps if Robert Parish had decided to make a surprise appearance playing in blue and gold, or if the Amazing Mumford had decided to give his teammates the night



Junior Jon Berg shoots from the baseline in Lexington's loss to Melrose. This year is the first in the past five that Lexington will not be on top of the League. Senior point



guard Lloyd Mumford launches one from the top of the key. Mumford is one of the state best in scoring, averaging over 30 points per game. Photos by Jon Yoken

Continued on page 8

Track Girls Win Title

By Amy Marx

The Girls' indoor track team has won yet another Middlesex League Championship. A perfect season of remarkable performances has set the team's record at 9-0.

Meet scores have ranged from a 71-7 Melrose trouncing to a 45-41 nailbiter against Stoneham. The team's final, and potentially most crucial, match-up will come against Burlington. Although Lexington's undefeated record has already guaranteed the team a piece of the league title, a victory against Burlington is necessary for Lexington to run away with the title.

Outstanding performances from the small but enthusiastic team have molded Lexington's perfect record. In looking at the list of league-best performances, one can not help but repeatedly notice Lexington's name. This season Lexington boasts seven league bests and one field house record.

Co-captain Leslie Singer, a senior, has led the league in both the dash and the 300. In the hurdles, Lexington has the incredible fortune to possess two top-notch hurdlers, co-captain Michelle Sheehy, a senior, and junior Amy Marx. Together they share the league best. Marx also shares the best time in the dash with Singer. Junior Jay Hartshorn holds on to

the best time in the 600.

The mile-relay team remains undefeated in dual meet competition. Through hard work and determination, the relay squad of Marx, sophomore Sarah Hutchinson, Hartshorn, and Singer recently captured the field house record. With a time of 4:01.1, the foursome erased two tenths of a second from the nine-year-old mark set in 1980 by Reading.

Most recently, Lexington faced Woburn, the only other undefeated team in the league. With unmatched talent and finesse, Lexington triumphed with a score of 48-38. Lexington was clearly the dominant team as it won seven out of the ten events.

In the hurdles, Sheehy placed first. Marx similarly captured first place in the dash. Senior Kirsten Kramer hurdled well, just barely missing first place.

In the 300, three Lexington runners ran particularly well. Singer took her customary first place. Freshman Latisha McQueen continued to better her performances as the speedy sophomore took third place. Sophomore Veronica Marino also ran well, as the 300 runner gained a personal best time.

Hutchinson ran to an uncontested victory in the 600. Also running highly respectable races for Lexington were sophomore

Concetta Marino and sophomore Alyson Fields. No one even came close to Hartshorn, who easily beat all Woburn competitors in the 1000. Senior Kristin Burge came through for Lexington in third place. Junior Jenny Lindwall, sophomore Sarah Lippert, senior Meg Gallagher and freshman Jasmin Keramaty also ran in top form against Woburn.

Freshman Maria Berger ran a superb mile only to be beaten by Woburn's best distance runner, Diane Connolly. Running with Berger was Angela Marino who grabbed third place for Lexington. In the two mile, senior Kristin Lieb and sophomore Agnieszka Reiss turned in two more fine performances as the runners continued to build Lexington's lead.

Sheehy and Marx soared to first and third places respectively, in the high-jump. In the shot-put, seniors Melanie Stephens and Nicole Flynn threw for second and third places.

The mile relay team topped off the meet in the previously mentioned record-breaking style.

Lexington's Girls' indoor track team is undeniably on a roll and hopes to carry its success and good fortune through to the post season State meets where Lexington will undoubtedly remain a force.



At the State Coaches' Meet at Harvard, Junior Jay Hartshorn vies for the lead in the first heat of the 1000-yard run. Hartshorn is one of the many LHS girls headed for the post-season State Meets. Photo by Dwight Holmes

Boys' Track 2nd at 8-1

By Jason Kissell

The LHS Boys' track team finished the season in second place in the Middlesex League with a record of 8-1. Weakened by illnesses and absences of many key team members, the Minutemen's lone setback came at the hands of the Reading Rockets during the December vacation.

"We definitely have the strength to beat Reading now," said Coach Bud Reed recently. "I just wish were able to run against them at this time in the season."

Lexington fiercely exhibited its power in wins over Watertown, Winchester, Belmont, Melrose, Wakefield, Stoneham and Woburn, the latter victory vaulting the blue and gold into sole possession of second place.

Leading the Minutemen all season long has been senior Matt Simon. Simon has controlled the league by holding the league best time in four events: the 600 at 1:16.8, the 1000 at 2:21.8, the mile at 4:26.3, and the 2-mile at 9:48.5. In addition, the talented senior won the State Coaches Meet mile in 4:25.1, foreshadowing his post-season, State-meet, potential.

Junior Joey Wong has also been a league force. Wong has surprised everyone this season as he shares the league best time of 6:2 in the hurdles with Woburn's Scott Queen. In a showdown with Queen, Wong appeared to have outlasted his Tanner opponent at the line, but officials thought otherwise, robbing Wong of his bragging rights.

In his final indoor season, senior Dwight Holmes holds the second fastest time in the 2-mile with a time of 10:08, qualifying him for the State Meet in February. Holmes has consistently run sub-10:30 times, running a personal best time at the State Coaches Meet where he finished second in the unseeded heat.

A newcomer to the indoor circuit, sophomore Ted Fitzpatrick has provided glimpses of the track team's future. Fitzpatrick has shined all season long, running a 4:43 mile against Belmont to upset the Raiders' Sean Covell and more significantly, dashing to victory in the Freshman/Sophomore Meet two-mile in a record time of 10:02.8.

Ed Single, also a sophomore, has helped Lexington's cause in

the 1000-yard run. Single has run a 2:29.1 in the field house, the league's fourth fastest time, and has turned in many respectable miles. Single was also victorious at the underclassmen meet where he ran 2:29.2 to win the 1000.

Other notable distance runners are John Raach and Jon Singh. Raach, a junior, has run a 4:46 mile and a 10:16 2-mile and has been consistently placing either first or second in his event. Senior Singh has run numerous 1000-yard races and holds a personal best time of 2:29.4, good enough to qualify him for the post-season meets.

Lexington's sprinting squad has been led by sophomore Kenny Richards. Richards, in his best race of the year, finished third in the Freshman/Sophomore Meet. In the league, he has obtained many valuable points in both the 45-yard dash and the 300-yard run. Other Lexington point-getters in the sprints have been senior Frank Staples, junior Jon Speare, sophomore Darryl Shanks and senior Tony Castleman, who is still recovering from an early season toe injury.

Continued on page 9



Senior Matt Simon has controlled the Middlesex League as he does here, outdistancing his Stoneham rival. Senior Jon Singh is in third place. Simon holds the league best time in four events: the 600, the 1000, the mile, and the two-mile. Photo by Mako Yoshino